

**641—201.21(135,75GA,ch158) Definitions.**

*“Access”* means the financial, temporal, and geographic availability of health care to individuals who need it.

*“Applicant”* means the party or parties to an agreement or business arrangement for which the department’s approval is sought under this provision.

*“Certificate of public advantage”* means the sanction by and protection of the department of public health of an operating arrangement which otherwise might be excepted under certain antitrust regulations.

*“Cost”* or *“cost of health care”* means the amount paid by consumers or third-party payers for health care services or products.

*“Criteria”* means the cost, access, and quality of health care.

*“Department”* means the department of public health.

*“Person”* means an individual or legal entity.